

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended): A connected staple comprising:  
a number of staple members aligned in parallel; and  
a tearable film adhered on one face of the staple members,  
wherein the number of staple members are connected by adhering with the tearable film,  
the tearable film is structured by laminating a first polymer film and a second polymer  
film, and  
the tearable film is provided with unpenetrated holes formed over an entire face of the  
tearable film, and  
the tearable film is arranged only at a portion of the staple member corresponding to an  
inner side of a crown portion of a C-shape staple formed from the staple member, and  
the tearable film is adhered to a staple member only at a center portion of the staple  
member which does not constitute a leg after the staple member is formed.
2. (Original): The connected staple according to claim 1, wherein an average opening  
diameter of the unpenetrated hole is 0.5 through 100  $\mu\text{m}$  and the unpenetrated holes are formed  
at the tearable film at a density equal to or larger than 1000 pieces/cm<sup>2</sup>.
3. (Original): The connected staple according to claim 1, wherein the unpenetrated hole is  
structured by a hole penetrated through or not penetrated through the first polymer film.

4. (Original): The connected staple according to claim 3, wherein the unpenetrated hole is formed by inserting the first polymer film between a pair of rollers structured by a roller formed with a diamond particle at a surface thereof and a roller formed with urethane rubber at a surface thereof by a plurality of times by changing an inserting direction.
5. (Original): The connected staple according to claim 1, wherein the unpenetrated hole comprises a hole formed by penetrating through the first polymer film and reaching the second polymer film.
6. (Original): The connected staple according to claim 5, wherein the unpenetrated hole is formed by inserting a laminated film laminated with the first polymer film and the second film to between a pair of rollers structured by a roller formed with a diamond particle at a surface thereof and a roller formed with urethane rubber at a surface thereof by a plurality of times by changing an inserting direction.
7. (Original): The connected staple according to claim 1, wherein the first polymer film is a film comprising a polymer selected from the groups consisting of polyester, nylon and oriented polypropylene.
8. (Original): The connected staple according to claim 1, wherein the second polymer film is a thermally melting polymer film.

9. (Currently Amended): The connected staple according to claim 1, wherein the staple member is an unformed staple in a straight shape, and  
~~the tearable film is adhered to a center portion of a staple member which does not constitute a leg after the staple member is formed.~~

10. (canceled)